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Message Text

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42-S
ACTION EA-13

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 INR-10 PM-03 NSC-10 NSCE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 RSR-01 RSC-01 /053 W
---------- 118134
R 011005Z SEP 73
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6211
INFO CINCPAC
USSAG
13TH ADVON UDORN
CG TASK FORCE DELTA NAM PHONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 13696

LIMDIS

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, TH
SUBJECT: REDEPLOYMENT OF US AIRCRAFT FROM THAILAND:
FAREWELL CALL ON PRIME MINISTER

REF: BANGKOK 13482/291552 AUG

1. PRIME MINISTER THANON HAS INVITED REPRESENTATIVES OF US AIRCRAFT SQUADRONS LEAVING THAILAND DURING PRESENT INITIAL REDUCTIONS TO CALL ON HIM AT MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE MONDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 3 (LABOR DAY).

2. AMBASSADOR WILL INTRODUCE ON THIS OCCASION BRIGADIER GENERAL MANNING T. JANNELL, USMC, COMMANDER, TASK FORCE DELTA, ACCOMPANIED BY COMMANDER MAG 15, AND BRIGADIER GENERAL JAMES R. HILDRETH, USAF COMMANDER, 13 TH ADVON, ACCOMPANIED BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FOUR AIR FORCE TACTICAL UNITS SLATED FOR REDEPLOYMENT.

3. RTG PURPOSE IS EVIDENTLY PRIMARILY TO GET ADDITIONAL PUBLICITY FOR GOVERNMENT INITIATIVE IN ARRANGING FOR PROMPT REDUCTIONS OF US FORCES IN THAILAND, WHICH THEY HOPE WILL
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GENERATE POSITIVE PUBLIC REACTION HERE.

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4. PLAN FOR FAREWLLL CALL EVOLVED IN DISCUSSION BETWEEN PRIMIN STAFF AND EMBASSY, DURING WHICH TIMING OF US AIRCRAFT MOVEMENTS PERSUADED THAI SIDE THAT SUGGESTIONS FOR FAREWLLL VISIT BY PRIME MINISTER TO US BASES, FAREWELL RECEPTION IN BANGKOK HOSTED BY PRIMIN, OR SCHEDULING US FLYOVER TO SALUTE BANGKOK WERE IMPRACTICAL.

5. FAREWELL CALL ON THANOM WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE FEATURED ON THAI TV AND ACCOMPLISH PRINCIPAL THAI PURPOSE. WE BELIEVE THAI SINCERELY INTEND ALSO TO UTILIZE OCCASION FOR STATEMENTS WHICH WILL PERSUADE THAI PUBLIC TO REDUCE DEMANDS FOR REDUCTIONS OF US FORCES AND WHICH WILL BE WELL RECEIVED IN THE US. HOWEVER, POSSIBILITY REMAINS THAT MEDIA MAY FIND SOME NEGATIVE ASPECT, WHILE TIMING ON LABOR DAY WILL LIMIT STATESIDE IMPACT.
UNGER

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